

# INFORMATION ~~SECRET~~ REPORT

COUNTRY Yugoslavia/USSR/Argentina

DATE DISTR. 2 August 1948

**SUBJECT** Reactions in Argentina to Tito-Cominform Split

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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14.2-1H
1. A member of the administrative staff of the Slav Communist newspaper, Union Eslava, is reported to have made the following observations on the recent Tito-Cominform schism:
    - a. The Cominform's accusation against Tito came as a great surprise to the Slav Communist leaders in Argentina. On the very day that the news of the crisis was announced in the Argentine press, there was a special board meeting of the Union Eslava at which time it was unanimously decided that no direct action should be taken until clarification is received from Moscow.
    - b. Christo Gonevsky, First Vice President of the Union Eslava and a personal friend of Marshal Tito, believes that the crisis was provoked by a misunderstanding, and that the case should be judged with great caution. Gonevsky reiterated his faith in Tito's ideological sincerity and in his devotion to Stalin and Soviet Russia.
    - c. The Communist Party of Argentina's condemnation of Marshal Tito has had an effect in the local Slav colony and, partially because of the CPA's attitude, some local Slavs now believe that Tito should be removed from office.
    - d. The Tito-Cominform rift will not produce a split in the local Slav Communist movement. Many Union Eslava officials and members believe that, if need be, Tito should be sacrificed for the good of the Slav movement and Communist unity.
  2. The following comments on the situation are credited to an ex-Minister of the Independent Croatian State who currently is living in exile in Buenos Aires:
    - a. Yugoslavia's difficulties with the Cominform were caused by Tito's extreme nationalism. There is also a possibility that the incident was caused partially by the historical Yugoslav-Bulgarian rivalry. It is known that George Dimitrov, Prime Minister of Bulgaria, is an advocate of Andre Zhdanov's ascendancy to power after Stalin whereas Tito is opposed to him as a replacement for Stalin.

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- b. Zhdanov apparently played a large part in organizing the Cominform's communique which denounced Marshal Tito.
- c. There will be no major change in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, nor will the recent incident lessen the bonds with Stalin and Russia. Neither Tito nor Yugoslavia will draw away from the Eastern orbit and closer to the Western powers as a result of the crisis.

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